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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
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Applicant: Werner Sievers et al Paper No:
Application No.: (Continuation of International Group Art Unit:
Application No. PCT/EP98/03381)
Filed: December 5, 2000 Examiner:
Title: Nanoporous Interpenetrating Organic-Inorganic Networks

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above application (filed herewith), applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

In claim 3, line 1, delete "or Claim 2".

In claim 4, line 1, delete "one of Claims 1-3" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 1 --.

In claim 5, line 1, delete "one of Claims 1-4" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 1 --.

In claim 6, line 1, delete "one of Claims 1-5" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 1 --.

In claim 7, line 1, delete "one of Claims 1-5" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 1 --.

In claim 8, line 3, delete "one of Claims 1-7" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 1 --.

In claim 12, line 2, delete "or Claim 9".

In claim 14, line 1, delete "Claims 6-12" and insert in place thereof -- Claim 8 --.

Please add the following new claims:

Claim 15 (NEW). Molded article or surface coating consisting of material according to Claim 9.

Claim 16 (NEW). Process for the production of molded articles or surface coatings according to Claim 15, characterized in that the aqueous solutions or dispersions are introduced into a mold or applied to a surface and in that a gel is then formed and dried.

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cont.